

NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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Deer Park HS Students Named Winners Of Suffolk County Energy Drink PSA Contest *SADD Club Honored by Legislator D'Amaro*



Legislator D'Amaro honored members of the Deer Park HS Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD) club and Advisor Janet Werner (far left) as the 2015 winners of "Truth about Stimulant Drinks" PSA contest

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... June 23, 2015) – Members of the Deer Park High School Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) club and their advisor Janet Werner were recently honored by Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station)

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as the 2015 winners of the Suffolk County “Truth about Stimulant Drinks” video contest. The presentation took place at the Suffolk County Legislature’s General Session on Tuesday, June 9 in Riverhead.

In conjunction with a public awareness campaign, the County Legislature annually invites high school students to create a 30 second public service announcement (PSA) video incorporating their interpretation of the negative health effects associated with consuming stimulant drinks.

One entry is selected from each legislative district to go on and compete at the County level where one video is ultimately chosen from amongst all of the district winners to be shown as a PSA on Cablevision.

Students who worked directly on the winning entry and received individual Certificates of Distinguished Achievement included: Lulu Amah, Debbie Baculima, James Depre, Karishma Shah and Stephanie Vaia. Ms. Werner and the entire club were presented with a Proclamation for display in the school. The winning video was shown at the meeting following the presentation.

“Stimulant drinks are becoming increasingly popular beverages, particularly among young people,” said Legislator D’Amaro. “Young adults may assume these drinks are safe because they are so widely available, but the truth is that some can contain up to 800 milligrams of caffeine, the equivalent of eight cups of coffee. They also can contain many other additional ingredients which may cause harmful side effects when consumed in high quantities or combinations.”

These adverse health impacts may include: insomnia, headaches, restlessness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, irritability and rapid heartbeat.

“I am so proud of these students for showcasing the potential harmful effects of energy drinks in such a relatable and creative way,” said Legislator D’Amaro. “Their message will resonate with their peers and hopefully make others stop and think before they reach for an energy drink.”

Energy Drinks PSA Contest Winner

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Suffolk County Legislator Lou D'Amaro represents the 17th Legislative District, which includes parts of Huntington, Huntington Station, South Huntington, Melville, West Hills, Cold Spring Hills, Dix Hills, Deer Park, North Babylon and West Babylon. He is chairman of the Budget & Finance committee and a member of the Education & Information Technology and Human Services committees of the Suffolk County Legislature.